

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought

on the invention entitled

"MASKING BACKGROUND FLUORESCENCE AND LUMINESCENCE IN OPTICAL ANALYSIS OF BIOMEDICAL ASSAYS"

the specification of which is attached hereto,

or was filed on **May 23, 1997**

as a PCT Application Serial No. **PCT/EP97/02662**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s), the priority(ies) of which is/are to be claimed:

196 21 312.6
(Number)

Germany
(Country)

May 28, 1996
(Month/Day/Year Filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose the material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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ing application and transfer all claims in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Arnold Sprung, Reg. No. 17,232; N. Daniel D. Kramer, Reg. No. 25,350; Ira J. Schaefer, Reg. No. 26, 802
 and Esther Steinhauer, Reg. No. 40,111 of 120 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, New York 10591;
 Kurt G. Briscoe, Reg. No. 33,141; William C. Gerstenzang, Reg. No. 27,552; Paul J. Juettner, Reg. No. 20,974
 and Carmella O' Gorman, Reg. No. 33,749 of 660 White Plains Road, 4th Floor,
 Tarrytown, New York 10591-5144,

Send Correspondence To:
 SPRUNG KRAMER SCHAEFER & BRISCOE

660 White Plains Road, 4th Floor
 Tarrytown, New York 10591-5144

Direct Telephone Calls To:

(914) 332-1700

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|--|--|--|------------------|
| FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Thoams Krahn | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 22.10.98 |
| RESIDENCE D 58135 Hagen, Germany | | CITIZENSHIP German | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS c/o Bayer Aktiengesellschaft, D 51368 Leverkusen, Germany | | | |
| FULL NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR Wolfgang Paffhausen | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 22.10.98 |
| RESIDENCE D 51381 Leverkusen, Germany | | CITIZENSHIP German | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS c/o Bayer Aktiengesellschaft, D 51368 Leverkusen, Germany | | | |
| FULL NAME OF THIRD INVENTOR Andreas Schade | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 23.10.98 |
| RESIDENCE D 45277 Essen, Germany | | CITIZENSHIP German | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS c/o Bayer Aktiengesellschaft, D 51368 Leverkusen, Germany | | | |
| FULL NAME OF FOURTH INVENTOR Martin Bechem | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 23.10.98 |
| RESIDENCE D 42111 Wuppertal, Germany | | CITIZENSHIP German | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS c/o Bayer Aktiengesellschaft, D 51368 Leverkusen, Germany | | | |
| FULL NAME OF FIFTH INVENTOR Delf Schmidt | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE <i>[Signature]</i> | DATE 27.10.98 |
| RESIDENCE D 42113 Wuppertal, Germany | | CITIZENSHIP German | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS c/o Bayer Aktiengesellschaft, D 51368 Leverkusen, Germany | | | |
| FULL NAME OF SIXTH INVENTOR | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE | DATE |
| RESIDENCE | | CITIZENSHIP | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS | | | |
| FULL NAME OF SEVENTH INVENTOR | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE | DATE |
| RESIDENCE | | CITIZENSHIP | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS | | | |
| FULL NAME OF EIGHTH INVENTOR | | INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE | DATE |
| RESIDENCE | | CITIZENSHIP | |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS | | | |